

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine  
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PACKING MATERIALS FOR NURSERY STOCK, PLANTS, AND SEEDS  
(Effective Mar. 4, 1935; supersedes H. B.--132)

All packing materials employed in connection with importations of nursery stock and other plants and seeds under Quarantine No. 37 are subject to approval as to such use by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

GENERAL PACKING MATERIALS FOR NURSERY STOCK, PLANTS, AND SEEDS

Such materials as sphagnum, ground peat, coconut fiber, osmunda fiber, buckwheat hulls, cereal straw (except rice straw), cereal chaff (except rice chaff), excelsior, shavings, sawdust, and charcoal, are authorized for use with nursery stock, plants, and seeds generally, provided they are free from sand, soil, or earth and have not been previously used as packing or otherwise with living plants.

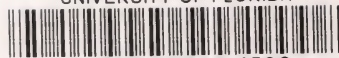
Packing materials other than those specifically mentioned may be authorized when it has been determined that their use does not involve a risk of introducing insect pests and plant diseases.

SOIL AUTHORIZED AS PACKING FOR BULBS, CORMS, NUTS, AND SEEDS

Regulation 7, Quarantine No. 37, provides that the requirements as to freedom from sand, soil, or earth shall not apply to sand, soil, or earth used for packing the articles enumerated in items Nos. 1, 4, and 5 of regulation 3 when such sand, soil, or earth has been previously sterilized or otherwise safeguarded in accordance with methods prescribed by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine under the supervision of an authorized inspector of the country of origin, such sterilization or safeguarding to be certified to by the duly authorized inspector of such country of origin. This provision is also extended to bulbs and corms imported under special permit under regulation 14. It should be emphasized that the use of sterilized soil and of naturally sterile soil as described below is not authorized for plants or plant products other than bulbs, corms, nuts, and seeds.

(1) The prescribed method of sterilization is as follows:

The sand, soil, or earth must be brought to a temperature of



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100° C. and held at or above that temperature for a period of 1 hour. Any method which will maintain the heat throughout the whole mass at the required temperature for this length of time will be satisfactory to the Bureau. The sterilization must be performed under the supervision of a duly authorized inspector of the country of origin and must be certified to by such inspector.

(2) Under the provisions of regulation 7 for the use as packing with bulbs, corms, seeds, and nuts, of soil which has been otherwise treated the following are authorized:

- (a) Subsoil from Japan, collected and handled under the supervision of the Imperial Plant Quarantine Station at Yokohama, Japan, when certified by the director of that station that the subsoil has been taken from at least 2 feet below the surface, and that it has been sifted, dried, and stored so as to prevent contamination by insects and diseases.
- (b) Dune sand from Belgium and the Netherlands, taken from a depth of 5 feet or more below the surface and so certified by an inspector of the phytosanitary service of the country concerned.
- (c) Coral sand from Bermuda, uncontaminated by surface soil, and certified as such by the Director of Agriculture of Bermuda.

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